

LIBRARY

The Berlin Public Library continues to maintain an organized collection of books and related materials for both educational and recreational use by the community. Computers with internet access, local newspapers on microfilm, audio books, and a movie collection, are all available to the community. We now also provide access to downloadable audio books through the New Hampshire State Library and Overdrive. Patrons can access these books by downloading them to their home computers to read, and can also transfer them to portable devices. Patrons, having library cards in good standing, have access to interlibrary materials from NH libraries belonging to the NHAIS network which is maintained by the New Hampshire State Library. Fax and copier services are available for a small fee. The library continues to offer a Children's Summer Reading Program and Book Discussion Series in conjunction with The White Mountains Community College.

Kathy Godin, the Children's Librarian, conducted a total of 38 weekly Story Hours for young children from September to June, serving 208 children and 207 adults. A total of 9 School Tours brought in a total of 200 children and 24 adults to visit the Children's Department. Two After School programs brought in 54 children and 10 adults.

The Children's 2010 Summer Reading Program theme was "Make a Splash - Read". The program was made possible by a Kids, Books and Arts grant from The NH State Library, the Byrne Foundation, CHILIS, and the Cogswell Benevolent Trust. The kick-off program was the Mickey Spain Musical Jamboree. It was held at the Recreation Dept., attracting 96 children and 65 adults. The Summer Reading Program consisted of 17 programs, with 551 children and 268 adults in attendance. As part of the weekly programs held at the library, the children

also enjoyed the ever popular two special outings to the Fire Dept. Two free programs were presented to the children by the National Forest Service. Ranger Becky Peterson did a presentation on animals and Rangers Heidi Wight and Elaine Swett did a presentation on rocks and minerals in New Hampshire. These were well attended and enjoyed by all. A closing party for the summer reading



program included Cliff Storyteller Duncan McDougall at the Community Field Park. In total, 1072 books were read. Some children counted chapters (205 total) and others counted how many minutes they read (15,330 minutes total) and other children, the number of hours read (44.5 hours). The library appreciates a donation of tickets made by Storyland for use with the Summer Reading Program. Donations like this help to make more successful children's programs.

A grant from the New Hampshire Humanities Council made it possible for the Berlin Public Library in conjunction with the White Mountains Community College to hold two series of lectures and book discussions at the Fortier Library. The Fall 2010 Book Discussion series was called "Tough Guys", discussing the hardboiled detective genre. Scholars for the programs were Craig Doherty and Suzanne Brown. The Spring 2011 series was entitled "The Northern Forest". Books included: The Maine Woods by Henry David Thoreau,

Where the River Flows by Howard Frank Mosher and The Northern Forest by David Dobbs and Richard Ober. Discussion scholars were Craig Doherty and Michael Wilson. A fourth program was a lecture called "Cross Cut" presented by Rebecca Rule. Ongoing at the White Mountains Community College was the exhibit of Ways of the Woods and Beyond Brown Paper Photograph Exhibit. Books for these discussions were available at both libraries during the program periods and open to the public at no charge.

In August 2010, the Berlin Public Library joined the New Hampshire Downloadable Books Consortium to provide access to downloadable books to patrons with library cards in good standing. Books can be downloaded to computers and/or portable devices for a specified loan period. This service is available to NH libraries for a yearly fee through the New Hampshire State Library.

In October 2010, the library received a large donation of gardening books from the Coos County Botanicals Garden Club. The books have been put on a separate shelf provided by the Berlin and Coos County Historical Society. The books are available for patrons to check out of the library.

In March 2011, a new phone system was installed in the Library. Also 4 new computers and a new server were installed at the library through the work of Andre Caron and the IT budget. This upgrade in computers and server made it possible to also order a new automation system, Atrium, for cataloging of books and patrons as the Athena program was over 10 years old and very outdated. We are working on the transition of records and barcoding with the new system.

TOPICS	ADULT	JUVENILE	TOTAL
000 - Generalities	85	24	109
100 - Philosophy	149	32	181
200 - Religion	88	19	107
300 - Social Science	315	193	508
400 - Language	26	39	65
500 - Pure Science	120	436	556
600 - Technology	491	297	788
700 - The Arts	221	504	725
800 - Literature	91	83	174
900 - Geography & History	244	156	400
910 - Travel	111	17	128
BIO - Biography	160	105	265
FIC - Fiction	7,668	4,937	12,605
MAG - Periodical	584	48	632
DVD - Movies	7,202	0	7,202
VHS - Movies	1,663	0	1,663
AC - Audio Books	4,024	1	4,025
CD - Compact Disk Music	45	0	45
TOTALS	23,287	6,891	30,178
PKB - Paperbacks	112	0	112
Walk in Patrons	17527	10477	28,004
Phone Inquiries	2107	238	2,345
Computer Users	4060	960	5,020
Copier Patrons	990	2	992
Fax Patrons	212	0	212
Microfilm Patrons	229	0	229
Interlibrary Loaned	980	0	980
Interlibrary Borrowed	220	0	220

During the FY 2011 there were no changes in Library Trustee positions. Holding current positions are Trustee Ms. Yvonne Thomas as Chair, Trustee Ms. Linda LaFleur as Treasurer and Trustee Paul "Poof" Tardiff. There were no changes in staffing for this year, although the reduction of funds for Per Diem staff,(Per Diem staff fill in to provide service to the public when regular staff is out due to illness, vacation, special projects, etc.) has made it difficult to keep up with demands on the staff.

In June 2011, Public Works replaced all the boards on the front bench at the library. The old boards were in danger of falling through and were a public safety issue.

The Staff at the Berlin Public Library appreciate and thank the community for their continued support and invite all the come in and make use of the valuable resources available at the library.

Respectfully Submitted,
Denise Jensen
 Library Director